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Claims searched: 1-9

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Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.R): C1A APF6; C7B (BDCF, BDCJ, BDCK, BDCN, BDDA, BDDB, BDDC, BEDG, BEDL)

Int Cl (Ed.7): C01G 23/047; C04B (35/043, 35/46, 35/482); C25C (3/00, 3/04, 3/06, 3/26, 3/28, 3/34, 5/00, 5/02, 5/04, 7/02); C25F (1/12, 1/14, 1/16, 1/18)

Other: Online; WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO

Documents considered to be relevant:

| Category | Identity of document and relevant passage | Relevant to claims |
|----------|--|--------------------|
| X | GB 1374832 (MAGNESIUM) see esp ex 1 and p2 lines 61-85 | 6-9 |
| X | GB 1362991 (UKAEA) see esp p1 lines 49-77 | 6-9 |
| X | GB 0781803 (HORIZONS) see esp exs | 1 at least |
| X | EP 0026666 A1 (SUMITOMO) see esp p2 lines 6-17 & ex 1 | 6-9 |
| A | WO 99/64638 A1 (CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY) see whole doc | 1 |
| A | WO 98/49371 A1 (ALTA GROUP) see whole doc | 1 |
| X | US 4187155 (DIAMOND) see esp ex 1 | 1-5 |
| A | US 4157285 (WINAND) see whole doc | 1 |

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| X | Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step | A | Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art. |
| Y | Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category. | P | Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention. |
| & | Member of the same patent family | E | Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application. |